

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 11. (Cancelled).

12. (previously amended) A method of forming cells of the T cell lineage comprising culturing stem cells or progenitor cells that are capable of differentiating into cells of the T cell lineage with a cell preparation comprising OP9 stromal cells that have been modified to express a Notch ligand that supports T cell lymphopoiesis but does not support B cell lymphopoiesis of stem cells or progenitor cells wherein the Notch ligand is Delta-like-1 or Delta-like-4 to form T cells of one or more of the following lineages:

(a) TCR- $\alpha\beta$ ⁺ CD4⁺CD8⁺ T cells; and/or

(b) TCR- $\gamma\delta$ ⁺ T cells.

13. (currently amended) A The method according to claim 12 wherein the cells that are capable of differentiating into cells of the T lineage are human cells selected from hematopoietic progenitor cells, hematopoietic stem cells and embryonic stem cells.

14. – 16. (cancelled).

17. (currently amended) A The method of claim 12 wherein the formed cells are formulated in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, auxiliary or excipient.

18. – 21. (cancelled).

22. (currently amended) A method for expanding cells of the T cell lineage comprising:

- (a) culturing stem cells or progenitor cells capable of differentiating into cells of the T cell lineage with a cell preparation comprising OP9 stromal cells that have been modified to express a Notch ligand that supports T cell lymphopoiesis but does not support B cell lymphopoiesis of stem cells or progenitor cells, wherein the Notch ligand is Delta-like-1 or Delta-like-4 and wherein the T cells produced comprise T cells of one or more of the following lineages:
- (i) CD4⁻ CD8⁻ CD25⁺ CD44⁺ double negative T cells;
 - (ii) CD4⁺ CD8⁻ CD25⁺ CD44⁻ double negative T cells;
 - (iii) ~~CD4⁺ CD8⁺ double positive T cells;~~
 - (iii) TCR- $\alpha\beta$ ⁺ CD4⁺ CD8⁺ T cells; and/or
 - (iv) TCR- $\gamma\delta$ ⁺ T cells; and
- (b) isolating increased numbers of the T cell lineage, wherein the number of cells is increased by at least about 10 to 15 fold compared to the stem cells or progenitor cells cultured in step (a).
23. – 49. (cancelled).
50. (currently amended) A The method as claimed in claim 12 wherein the OP9 cells comprise a Delta-like-1 nucleic acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:8 or SEQ ID NO:9.
51. (currently amended) A The method as claimed in claim 12 wherein the OP9 cells comprise a Delta-like-4 nucleic acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:11.
52. (currently amended) A The method as claimed in claim 22 wherein the OP9 cells comprise a Delta-like-1 nucleic acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:8 or SEQ ID NO:9.
53. (currently amended) A The method as claimed in claim 22 wherein the OP9 cells comprise a Delta-like-4 nucleic acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:10 or SEQ ID NO:11.